

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15

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DRAFTED BY: NEA/ARP:BWRAMPPELMEIER

APPROVED BY: NEA: MR. SISCO

NEA/ARP - MR. DICKMAN

L- MR. MICHEL

DOD/ISA- J. NOYES

NEA: MR. ATHERTON

S/S: MR. TWOHIE

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O 110519Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCON DHAHRAN IMMEDIATE

USMTM DHAHRAN IMMEDIATE

COE DIST ENGR RIYADH IMMEDIATE

COE MEDDIV LIVORNO IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

SECDEF IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 201397

SECDEF FOR ISA AND DSAA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, MARR, SA

SUBJ: ROLE OF US MILITARY PERSONNEL AND US CIVILIAN CONTRACTOR

EMPLOYEES IN EVENT SAUDIS BECOME INVOLVED IN HOSTILITIES

1. RECENT MESSAGES FROM JIDDA AND AMMAN INDICATE THAT ELEMENTS
OF SAUDI ARABIAN ARMY MAY BE PREPARING TO MOVE OVERLAND FROM

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TABUK THROUGH JORDAN TO SYRIAN FRONT. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT

SAUDIS, IN PREPARING FOR THIS AND OTHER SAUDI MILITARY MEASURES, MAY SEEK ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION OF US MILITARY TRAINING OR ADVISORY PERSONNEL OR OF US CIVILIAN CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD US MILITARY OR DOD CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ASSIST OR PARTICIPATE IN READYING SAUDI ARMED FORCES FOR MILITARY OPERATIONS. INVOLVING PRESENT MIDDLE EAST HOSTILITIES.

2. CASE OF AMERICAN PRIVATE COMPANIES HOLDING MILITARY CONTRACTS WITH SAG OBVIOUSLY PRESENTS SPECIAL PROBLEM. EMBASSY SHOULD CONTACT SENIOR US REPRESENTATIVES OF THESE FIRMS IN SAUDI ARABIA AND CONVEY TO THEM FOLLOWING MESSAGE;

A. AS MIDEAST HOSTILITIES CONTINUE, ODDS RISE SUBSTANTIALLY THAT SAUDI ARABIAN MILITARY FORCES MAY BECOME DIRECTLY INVOLVED EVEN IF ONLY ON SMALL TOKEN SCALE.

B. SHOULD SAUDIS APPROACH AMERICAN CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVES OR INDIVIDUAL AMERICAN EMPLOYEES TO ASSIST IN PREPARING SAUDI FORCES FOR MILITARY OPERATIONS OUTSIDE OF THE KINGDOM, WE BELIEVE COMPANIES SHOULD SEEK WAYS TO DECLINE SUCH REQUESTS. USG WELL AWARE OF DIFFICULTIES COMPANIES MAY FACE IN TERMS THEIR FUTURE RELATIONSHIPS WITH MODA IF THEY REFUSE TO COOPERATE WITH SAUDI REQUESTS, BUT USG STRONGLY HOPES THEY WILL FIND WAY TACTFULLY TO TURN ASIDE REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE THAT WOULD CONTRIBUTE DIRECTLY TO READINESS OF SAUDI ARMED FORCES TO TAKE PART IN OPERATIONS OUTSIDE OF KINGDOM.

C. IN EVENT SAUDIS DO BECOME INVOLVED IN FIGHTING AND ISRAELI FORCES RETALIATE AGAINST MILITARY TARGETS INSIDE SAUDI ARABIA, SITUATION OF COURSE BECOMES EVEN MORE DIFFICULT. HOWEVER, WE WOULD STILL STRONGLY ADVISE THAT COMPANIES AND INDIVIDUAL AMERICAN EMPLOYEES AVOID BECOMING DIRECTLY ENGAGED IN SAUDI MILITARY ACTIONS.

3. ABOVE INSTRUCTIONS CLEARED WITH DOD. KISSINGER

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